# 

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA — DESIGNATION FORM to be used by counsel to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of assignment to appropriate calendar.

Address of Plaintiff: 1335 West Tabor Road, Suite 206, Philade	Iphia, PA 19141
Address of Defendant: 1104 Bergan Road, Oreland, PA 19075	
Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction: Pennsylvania	
·	Side For Additional Space)
Does this civil action involve a nongovernmental corporate party with any parent corporate	
(Attach two copies of the Disclosure Statement Form in accordance with Fed.R.Ci	$\text{Yes} \square \text{No} \square$
Does this case involve multidistrict litigation possibilities?	Yes□ No 🔀
RELATED CASE, IF ANY:	
Case Number:Judge	Date Terminated:
Civil cases are deemed related when yes is answered to any of the following question	ns:
1. Is this case related to property included in an earlier numbered suit pending or wi	
	$Y_{es} \square N_0 \square$
2. Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction action in this court?	as a prior suit pending or within one year previously terminated
	Yes□ No XX
3. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or an	ny earlier numbered case pending or within one year previously
terminated action in this court?	Yes□ No⊠
4. Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, social security appeal, or pro se	civil rights case filed by the same individual?
	Yes□ No□
CIVIL: (Place ✓ in ONE CATEGORY ONLY)	
A. Federal Question Cases:	B. Diversity Jurisdiction Cases:
1. □ Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and All Other Contract	
2. □ FELA	2. □ Airplane Personal Injury
3. □ Jones Act-Personal Injury	3. □ Assault, Defamation
4. □ Antitrust	4. ☐ Marine Personal Injury
5. □ Patent	5. □ Motor Vehicle Personal Injury
6. □ Labor-Management Relations	6. □ Other Personal Injury (Please
	specify)
7. □ Civil Rights	7. □ Products Liability
8. □ Habeas Corpus	8.   Products Liability — Asbestos
9. ☐ Securities Act(s) Cases	9. □ All other Diversity Cases
10. □ Social Security Review Cases	(Please specify)
11. All other Federal Question Cases Telephone Consumer F	Protection Act
ARBITRATION	CERTIFICATION
	opriate Category)  reply certify:
	eledge and belief, the damages recoverable in this civil action case exceed the sum of
\$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs;	
□ Relief other than monetary damages is sought.	,
DATE: February 3, 2010	AM-2759
Anomey-at-Law Alan C	
NOTE: A trial de novo will be a trial by jury	only if there has been compliance with F.R.C.P. 38.
I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is not related to any case now po	ending or within one year previously terminated action in this court
except as noted above.	/
DATE: February 3, 2010	AM-2759
Attorney-as-Law Alan C	

CIV. 609 (6/08)

\*aJS 44 (Rev. 12/07)

### **CIVIL COVER SHEET**

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law. except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS Richard Rettig, a Michigan corporation, individually and as the representative of a class  (b) Columnia Marked Agrico Praintiff County of Residence of First Listed Defendant	ie A. Jamieson,
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)  (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES O  1335 West Tabor Road, Suite 206, Philadelphia, PA 1914 NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES. USE LAND INVOLVED.	
Sherman Silverstein Kohl Rose & Podolsky, P.A. (c) Attorney's (Finn Name, Address, and Telephone Number) Alan C. Milstein, Esquire, 4300 Haddonfield Road, Suite 311, Pennsauken, NJ 08109 856-662-0700	
II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only) III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES(P	Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff
(For Diversity Cases Only)  U.S. Government Plaintiff (U.S. Government Not a Party)  (For Diversity Cases Only)  PTF DEF  Citizen of This State  1 1 1 Incorporated or Print of Business In This	and One Box for Defendant)  PTF DEF ncipal Place
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant ☐ 4 Diversity Citizen of Another State ☐ 2 ☐ 2 Incorporated and Prof Business In Art	nother State
Citizen or Subject of a	0606
IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)	
120 Marine	OTHER STATUTES  □ 400 State Reapportionment □ 410 Antitrust □ 430 Banks and Banking □ 450 Commerce □ 460 Deportation □ 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations □ 480 Consumer Credit □ 490 Cable/Sat TV □ 810 Selective Service □ 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange □ 875 Customer Challenge □ 12 USC 3410 □ 890 Other Statutory Actions □ 891 Agricultural Acts □ 892 Economic Stabilization Act □ 893 Environmental Matters □ 894 Energy Allocation Act □ 895 Freedom of Information Act □ 900Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice □ 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only)  1 Original 2 Removed from 3 Remanded from 4 Reinstated or 5 Transferred from another district Litigation Proceeding State Court Appellate Court Reopened 5 Transferred from another district Litigation	iviagistrate
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION  Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):  47 U.S.C. Sec 227  Brief description of cause: violation of 47 U.S.C. Sec 227, Telephone Consumer Protection Act	Judgment
TO TO THE TOTAL OF	f demanded in complaint:
COMPLAINT: UNDER F.R.C.P. 23 Excess of \$75,000.00 JURY DEMAND:  VIII. RELATED CASE(S)  IF ANY  (See instructions): JUDGE  DOCKET NUMBER	☐ Yes ■ No
SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD February 3, 2010 Alan C. Milstein, Esquire	
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Print Save As Export as FDF Retrieve FDF File	GE

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

### CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM

Richard Rettig, individually an		CIVIL ACTION	
of a class of similary situated	persons :		
SVJ, Inc., Steven W. Jamison,	Valerie A. Jamieson		
d/b/a Platinum Moving Compa		NO.	
plaintiff shall complete a Ca- filing the complaint and serve side of this form.) In the e designation, that defendant s the plaintiff and all other par	se Management Track Design e a copy on all defendants. (Se event that a defendant does n shall, with its first appearance	Reduction Plan of this court, counsellation Form in all civil cases at the time § 1:03 of the plan set forth on the revot agree with the plaintiff regarding, submit to the clerk of court and servick Designation Form specifying the treed.	erse said e on
SELECT ONE OF THE FO	OLLOWING CASE MANAG	GEMENT TRACKS:	
(a) Habeas Corpus – Cases l	orought under 28 U.S.C. § 22	41 through § 2255.	( )
(b) Social Security – Cases and Human Services den	requesting review of a decision bying plaintiff Social Security	n of the Secretary of Health Benefits.	( )
(c) Arbitration – Cases requ	ired to be designated for arbit	ration under Local Civil Rule 53.2.	( )
(d) Asbestos – Cases involve exposure to asbestos.	ing claims for personal injury	or property damage from	( )
commonly referred to as	Cases that do not fall into tracl complex and that need special ide of this form for a detailed	al or intense management by	( )
(f) Standard Management –	Cases that do not fall into any	y one of the other tracks.	( <b>x</b> )
February 3, 2010  Date  (856) 662-0700  Telephone	Attorney-at-law Alan C. Milstein (856) 488-4744 FAX Number	Plaintiff, Richard Rettig Attorney for amilstein@shermansilverstein E-Mail Address	 1.com
z ezepatotte	21414 11444004	2	

(Civ. 660) 10/02

### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

RICHARD RETTIG, individually and as	)	
the representative of a class of similarly	)	
situated persons,	)	
Plaintiff,		
	)	
v.	)	No
	)	
SVJ, INC., STEVEN W. JAMISON, and	)	
VALERIE A. JAMISON d/b/a	)	
PLATINUM MOVING COMPANY,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	Ó	

## **CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT**

Plaintiff, RICHARD RETTIG (herein "Plaintiff"), brings this action on behalf of himself and all other persons similarly situated, through his attorneys, and except as to those allegations that pertain to Plaintiff or his attorneys, which allegations are based upon personal knowledge, alleges the following upon information and belief against Defendants, SVJ, INC., STEVEN W. JAMISON, and VALERIE A. JAMISON d/b/a PLATINUM MOVING COMPANY, (herein "Defendants").

### PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

- 1. This case challenges Defendants' policy and practice of faxing unsolicited advertisements.
- 2. The Telephone Consumer Protection Act ("TCPA"), 47 U.S.C. § 227, prohibits a person or entity within the United States from sending or having an agent send unsolicited faxed advertisements. The TCPA provides a private right of action for violations and provides statutory damages of \$500.00 per violation.
- 3. Unsolicited faxes damage their recipients. A junk fax recipient loses the use of its fax machine, paper, and ink toner. An unsolicited fax also causes the recipient

to waste valuable time it would have spent on something else. Unsolicited faxes prevent fax machines from receiving authorized faxes, prevent their use for authorized outgoing faxes, cause undue wear and tear on the recipient fax machines, and require additional labor to attempt to discern the source and purpose of the unsolicited message.

- 4. On behalf of itself and all others similarly situated, Plaintiff brings this case as a class action asserting claims against Defendants under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227 ("TCPA").
- 5. Plaintiff seeks an award of statutory damages for each violation of the TCPA.

### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 6. Jurisdiction exists under the Class Action Fairness Act 28 U.S.C. 1332 since there is more than \$5,000,000.00 in controversy.
- 7. Venue in this district is proper because Defendants reside and do business here and a significant portion of the events took place here.

### **PARTIES**

- 8. Plaintiff, RICHARD RETTIG, is a person who resides and does business within this judicial district.
- 9. On information and belief, Defendant, SVJ, INC., is a Pennsylvania corporation which does business within this federal judicial district. On information and belief, Defendants, STEVEN W. JAMISON and VALERIE A. JAMISON, are officers, directors, shareholders, and control persons of SVJ, INC. which operates under the name PLATINUM MOVING COMPANY.

On information and belief, STEVEN W. JAMISON and VALERIE A. JAMISON approved, authorized and participated in the scheme to broadcast advertisements by facsimile by (a) directing a list to be purchased or assembled; (b) directing and supervising employees or third parties to send the advertisements by fax; (c) creating and approving the form of advertisements to be sent; (d) determining the number and frequency of the facsimile transmissions; and (e) approving or paying the employees or third parties to send the advertisements by facsimile transmission.

### **FACTS**

- 10. On or about February 14, 2006, Defendants sent by telephone facsimile machine an unsolicited advertisement to Plaintiff's facsimile machine. A copy of the facsimile is attached hereto and marked as Exhibit A.
- 11. Defendants did not have Plaintiff's prior express invitation or permission to send advertisements to Plaintiff's fax machine.
- 12. On information and belief, Defendants have sent similar unsolicited facsimile advertisements to at least 39 other recipients.
- 13. There is no reasonable means for Plaintiff (or any other class member) to avoid receiving illegal faxes. Fax machines are left on and ready to receive the urgent communications their owners desire to receive.

### TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT, 47 U.S.C. § 227

14. In accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 23, Plaintiff brings this action pursuant to the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227, on behalf of the following class of persons:

All persons that are holders of telephone numbers to which a facsimile transmission was sent on behalf of Defendants advertising or promoting the goods or services of Defendants at any time between four years prior to the filing of this suit to and including the present (the "Class Period").

Excluded from the Class are Defendants, their officers, directors, employees, agents, and members of the Judiciary.

- 15. <u>Commonality [Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(A)(2)]</u>. Common questions of law and fact apply to the claims of all class members. Common material questions of fact and law include but are not limited to the following:
  - (a) Whether Defendants sent unsolicited fax advertisements;
  - (b) Whether Defendants' facsimiles advertised the commercial availability of property, goods or services;
  - (c) The manner and method Defendants used to compile or obtain the list of fax numbers to which it sent Exhibit A and other unsolicited faxed advertisements;
  - (d) Whether Defendants faxed advertisements without first obtaining the recipients' prior express permission or invitation;
    - (e) Whether Defendants sent the faxed advertisements knowingly;
    - (f) Whether Defendants violated the provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 227;
  - (g) Whether Plaintiff and the other members of the class are entitled to statutory damages; and
    - (h) Whether the Court should award treble damages.
- 16. <u>Typicality [Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(3)]</u>. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of all class members. Plaintiff received a facsimile sent on behalf of Defendants advertising goods and services of Defendants during the Class Period. Plaintiff is

making the same claims and seeking the same relief for itself and all class members based on the same federal statute. Defendants have acted the same or in a similar manner with respect to Plaintiff and all the class members.

- 17. <u>Fair and Adequate Representation [Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a)(4)]</u>. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interest of the class. It is interested in this matter, has no conflicts, and has retained experienced class counsel to represent the class.
- 18. Need for Consistent Standards and Practical Effect of Adjudication [Fed. R. Civ. P. 23 (b)(1)]. Class certification is appropriate because the prosecution of individual actions by class members would: (a) create the risk of inconsistent adjudications that could establish incompatible standards of conduct for Defendants, and/or (b) as a practical matter, adjudication of Plaintiff's claims will be dispositive of the interests of class members who are not parties.
- 19. <u>Common Conduct [Fed. R. Civ. P. 23 (b)(2)]</u>. Class certification is also appropriate because Defendants has acted and refused to act in the same or similar manner with respect to all class members thereby making injunctive and declaratory relief appropriate. Plaintiff demands such relief as authorized by 47 U.S.C. § 227.
- 20. <u>Predominance and Superiority [Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(3)]</u>. Common questions of law and fact predominate and a class action is superior to other methods of adjudication.
  - (a) Proof of the claims of Plaintiff will also prove the claims of the class without the need for separate or individualized proceedings;

- (b) Evidence regarding defenses or any exceptions to liability that

  Defendants may assert and prove will come form Defendants' records and will

  not require individualized or separate inquires or proceedings;
- (c) Defendants have acted and is continuing to act pursuant to common policies or practices in the same or similar manner with respect to all class members;
- (d) The amount likely to be recovered by individual class members does not support protested individual litigation. A class action will permit a large number of relatively small claims involving virtually identical facts and legal issues to be resolved efficiently in one proceeding based on common proofs;
  - (e) This case is inherently managed as a class action in that:
  - (i) Defendants identified persons or entities to receive the fax transmissions, and it is believed that Defendants' computer and business records will enable Plaintiff to readily identify class members and establish liability and damages;
  - (ii) Liability and damages can be established for Plaintiff and the class with the same common proofs;
  - (iii) Statutory damages are provided for in the statute and are the same for all class members and can be calculated in the same or a similar manner;
  - (iv) A class action will result in an orderly and expeditious administration of claims, and it will foster economics of time, effort and expense;

- (v) A class action will contribute to uniformity of decisions concerning Defendants' practices;
- (vi) As a practical matter, the claims of the class are likely to go unaddressed absent class certification.
- 21. The TCPA makes unlawful the "use of any telephone facsimile machine, computer or other device to send an unsolicited advertisement to a telephone facsimile machine ...." 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1).
- 22. The TCPA defines "unsolicited advertisement," as "any material advertising the commercial availability or quality of any property, goods, or services which is transmitted to any person without that person's express invitation or permission." 47 U.S.C. § 227(a)(4).
  - 23. The TCPA provides:
    - 3. <u>Private right of action</u>. A person may, if otherwise permitted by the laws or rules of court of a state, bring in an appropriate court of that state:
      - (A) An action based on a violation of this subsection or the regulations prescribed under this subsection to enjoin such violation,
      - (B) An action to recover for actual monetary loss from such a violation, or to receive \$500 in damages for each such violation, whichever is greater, or
        - (C) Both such actions.
- 24. The TCPA is a strict liability statute, so Defendants are liable to Plaintiff and the other class members even if its actions were only negligent.
- 25. Defendants knew or should have known that (a) Plaintiff and the other class members had not given express invitation or permission for Defendants or anybody

else to fax advertisements about Defendants' goods or services, (b) that Plaintiff and the other class members did not have an established business relationship, and (c) that Exhibit A is an advertisement.

- 26. Defendants' actions caused damages to Plaintiff and the other class members. Receiving Defendants' junk faxes caused the recipients to lose paper and toner consumed in the printing of Defendants' faxes. Moreover, Defendants' faxes used Plaintiff's fax machine. Defendants' faxes cost Plaintiff time, as Plaintiff and its employees wasted their time receiving, reviewing and routing Defendants' illegal faxes. That time otherwise would have been spent on Plaintiff's business activities. Finally, Defendants' faxes unlawfully interrupted Plaintiff's and the other class members' privacy interests in being left alone.
- 27. Defendants violated 47 U.S.C. § 227 et seq. by transmitting Exhibit A hereto to Plaintiff and the other members of the class without obtaining their prior express permission or invitation.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, RICHARD RETTIG, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, demands judgment in his favor and against Defendants, SVJ, INC., STEVEN W. JAMISON, and VALERIE A. JAMISON d/b/a PLATINUM MOVING COMPANY, jointly and severally, as follows:

- A. That the court adjudge and decree that the present case may be properly maintained as a class action, appoint Plaintiff as the representative of the class, and appoint Plaintiff's counsel as counsel for the class;
- B. That the court award actual monetary loss from such violations or the sum of \$500.00 in damages for each violation whichever is greater;

- C. The court enjoin Defendants from additional violations; and
- D. That the court award costs and such further relief as the court may deem just and proper.

RICHARD RETTIG, individually and as the representative of a class of similarly-situated

persons

By:

Alan C. Milstein

Sherman, Silverstein, Kohl, Rose & Podolsky

4300 Haddonfield Road, Suite 311

Pennsauken, NJ 08109

2/3/10

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Telephone: 847/368-1500

Philip A. Bock

Bock & Hatch, LLC

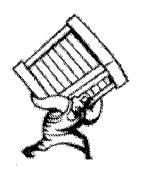
134 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 1000
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Telephone: 312/658-5500

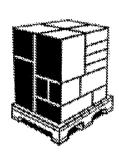
EXHIBIT A



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